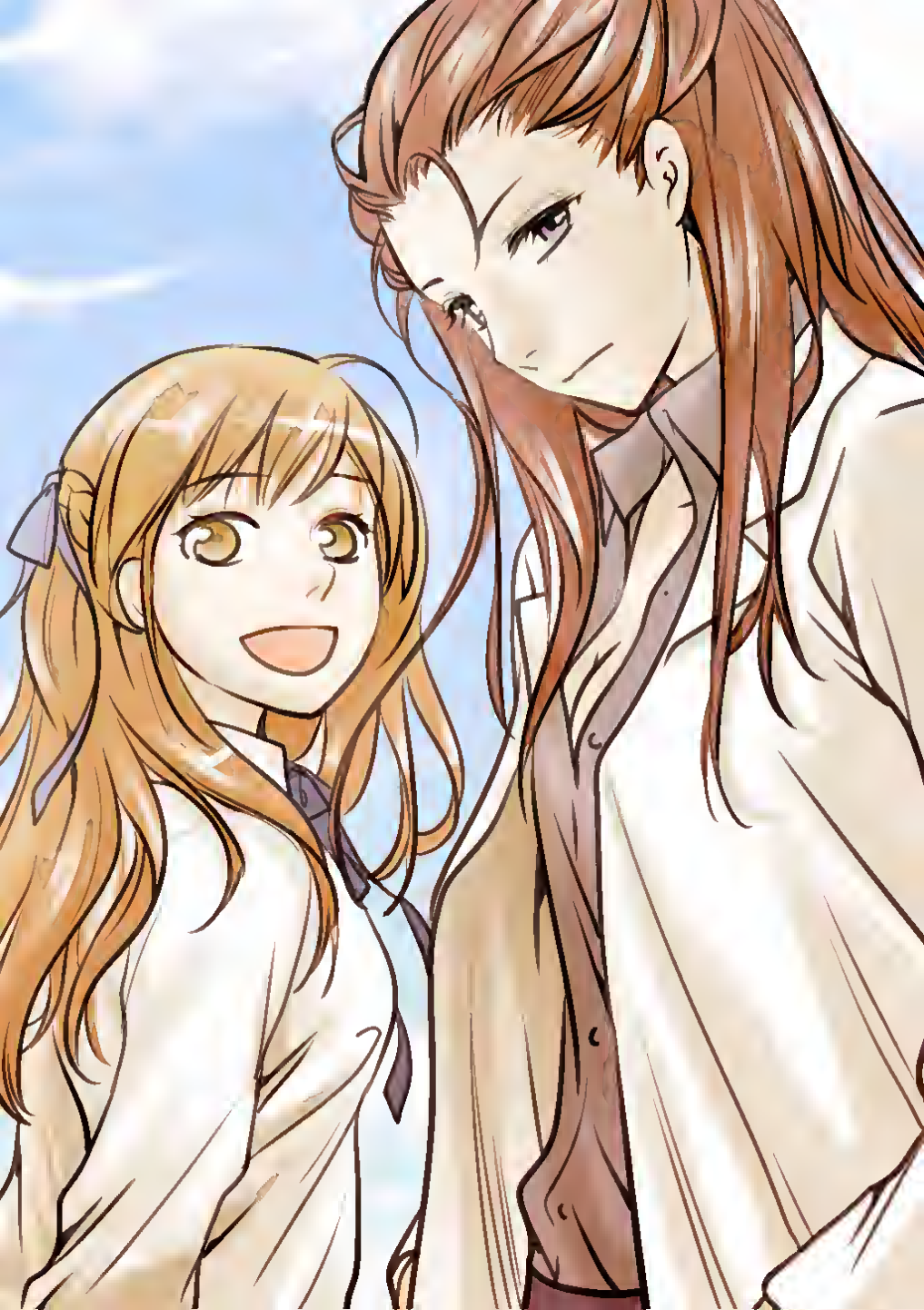
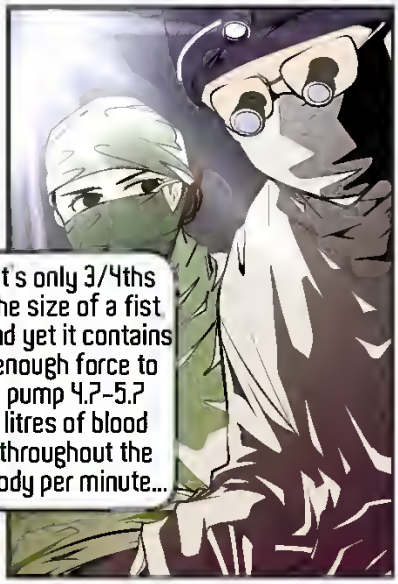


The Heart—one of the most vital organs in the human body.

If you only knew the things that small, yet amazing, organ is capable of doing. You may be surprised.

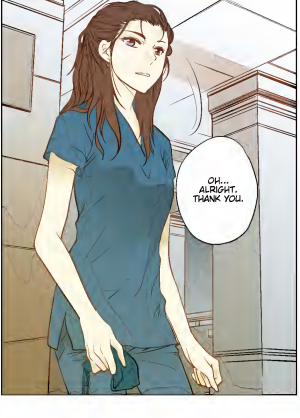


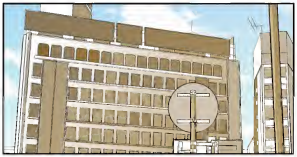
It's only 3/4ths the size of a fist and yet it contains enough force to pump 4.2-5.2 litres of blood throughout the body per minute...

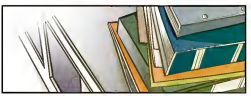
Beating approximately 72 times while doing so. If the average lifespan of a human being is 65 years, then their heart would have beaten over an astounding 2.5 billion times.

In addition, it works independently—or rather the cardiac muscle is stimulated through electrical conduction, out of voluntary control of the mind... that is to say, it's completely involuntary and works by itself.
HFF..
What's strange is that, this small organ has also gotten itself involved with this story of love..

OPERATIN
UM... EXCUSE ME, DOCTOR MEI....
THE DEPARTMENT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THIS AFTERNOON...

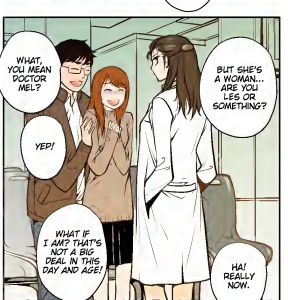

OH... ALRIGHT. THANK YOU.

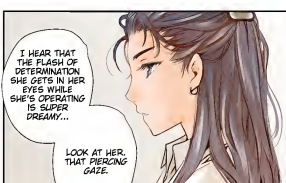




Saigh...
SHE'S SO COOOOL...

HM?
SHE'S COOL NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT HER...
I'M SO JEALOUS OF THE GUYS THAT GET TO HELP HER OUT IN THE OR...
I HOPE I GET TO DATE HER SOMEDAY.


WHAT, YOU MEAN DOCTOR MEI-?
YEP!
WHAT IF I AM? THAT'S NOT A BIG DEAL IN THIS DAY AND AGE!
BUT SHE'S A WOMAN... ARE YOU LES OR SOMETHING?
HA! REALLY NOW.


I HEAR THAT THE FLASH OF DETERMINATION SHE GETS IN HER EYES WHILE SHE'S OPERATING IS SUPER DREAMY...
LOOK AT HER. THAT PIERCING GAZE.

IF SHE EVER LOOKED STRAIGHT AT ME WITH THOSE EYES, I THINK I'D PROBABLY MELT...

I...THINK IT'D BE BEST NOT TO GET INVOLVED WITH HER.
HUH? WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
WELL... FROM WHAT I HEAR... DOCTOR MEI ISN'T YOUR TYPICAL RUN-OF-THE-MILL WOMAN...

A LOT OF THE NURSES -AND EVEN DOCTORS- HAVE GOTTEN INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH HER...
BUT SHE NEVER REALLY DATES ANY OF THEM SERIOUSLY.

OOOH... NO KIDDING...
LOOKS TO ME LIKE SHE'S A BIT OF A PLAYER, IN THAT REGARD.

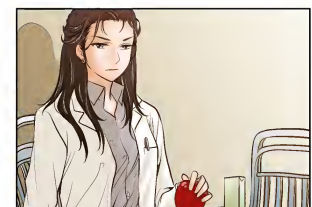
I MEAN, SHE'S A LESBIAN, SO...
SHE PROBABLY ISN'T INTO SERIOUS RELATIONSHIPS ANYWAY. I SAY I'M REALLY AFRAID TO BREAK SOME HEARTS HERE AND THERE, YOU KNOW.

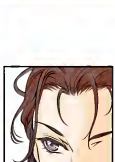
YOU'D BE BETTER OFF NOT TURNING INTO ONE OF HER PLAYTHINGS.

EVEN IF DATING GIRLS ISN'T AS SERIOUS AS IT IS WITH GUYS...
IF YOU CROSS WHATEVER INVISIBLE LINE SHE'S DRAWN, THEN YOU'LL JUST WIND UP HURTING YOURSELF NEEDLESSLY IN THE END.

BUT THEN AGAIN, EVEN WITH HER SLEEPING AROUND...
SHE PROBABLY HAS SOME STANDARDS, STILL.

H-HMPH... IT'S NOT LIKE I'M THAT UGLY OR ANYTHING...

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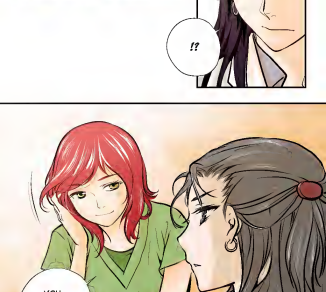
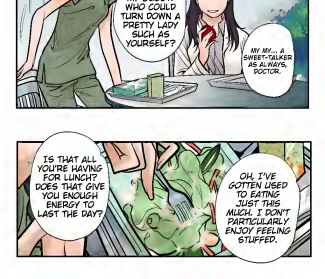
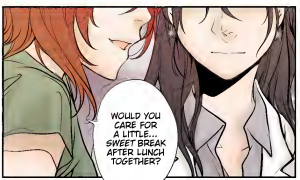
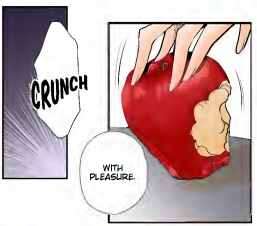

YOU WOULDN'T MIND IF I TOOK THIS SEAT, WOULD YOU, DOCTOR?

OH, NO, BE MY GUEST. WHO COULD TURN DOWN A PRETTY LADY SUCH AS YOURSELF?
MY MY... A SWEET-TALKER AS ALWAYS, DOCTOR.

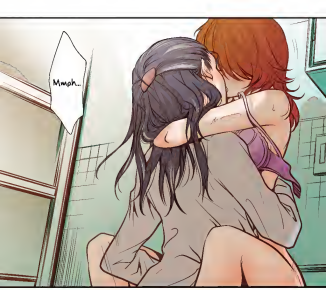

IS THAT ALL YOU'RE HAVING FOR LUNCH? DOES THAT GIVE YOU ENOUGH ENERGY TO LAST THE DAY?
OH, I'VE GOTTEN USED TO EATING JUST THIS MUCH. I DON'T PARTICULARLY ENJOY FEELING STUFFED.

AND... WHAT ABOUT SWEETS, DOCTOR? DO YOU LIKE SWEETS?
Teehee


WOULD YOU CARE FOR A LITTLE... SWEET BREAK AFTER LUNCH TOGETHER?


CRUNCH
WITH PLEASURE.

Ah..
Aaahh..
Uff.. Hff..

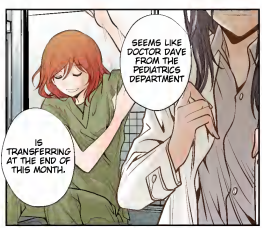

Mmph...

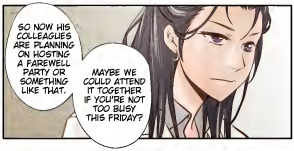
Ah... I can't...
I'm... close...

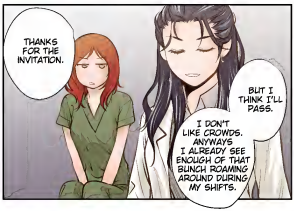
HM... WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO, THEN?
COME ON, BEAUTIFUL. BEG FOR ME WITH THAT VOICE OF YOURS.

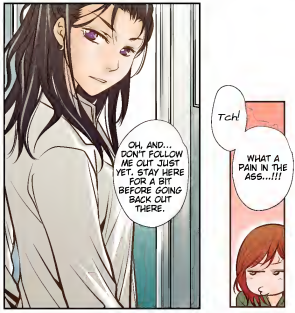
Ah... Uh...
P. Please...

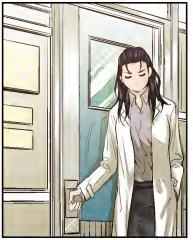
Haa...
Aah..!


SEEMS LIKE DOCTOR DAVE FROM THE PEDIATRICS DEPARTMENT
IS TRANSFERRING AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

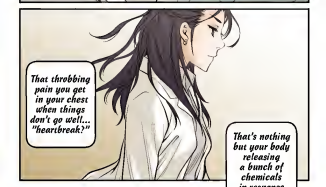

SO NOW HIS COLLEAGUES ARE PLANNING ON HOSTING A FAREWELL PARTY OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
MAYBE WE COULD ATTEND IT TOGETHER IF YOU'RE NOT TOO BUSY THIS FRIDAY?


THANKS FOR THE INVITATION.
BUT I THINK I'LL PASS.
I DON'T LIKE CROWDS. ANYWAYS I ALREADY SEE ENOUGH OF THAT BUNCH ROAMING AROUND DURING MY SHIFTS.

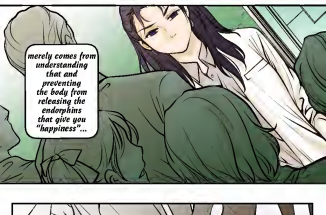

OH, AND... DON'T FOLLOW ME OUT JUST YET. STAY HERE FOR A BIT BEFORE GOING BACK OUT THERE.
Tch!
WHAT A PAIN IN THE ASS...!!!



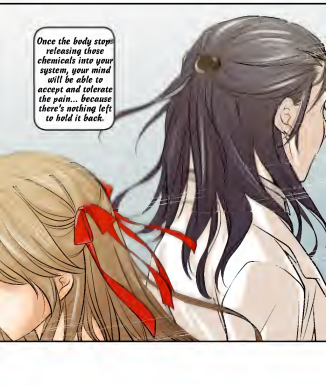
"Loving with your heart?" No, that's nonsense to me.

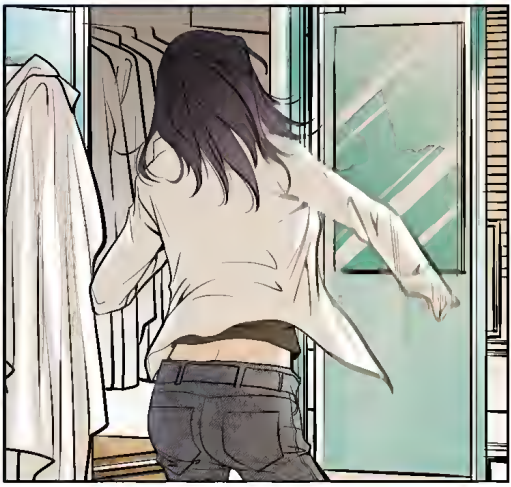

That throbbing pain you get in your chest when things don't go well... "heartbreak?"
That's nothing but your body releasing a bunch of chemicals in response to rejection.

This specific kind of pain I feel...

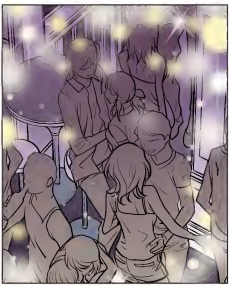

merely comes from understanding that and preventing the body from releasing the endorphins that give you "happiness"...

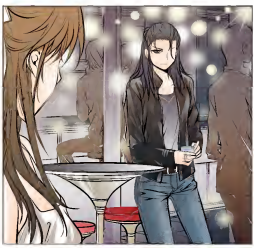
...and phenethylamine. The "Love Drug" chemical.

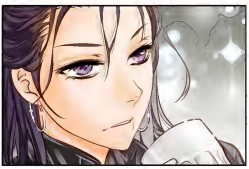

Once the body stops releasing those chemicals into your system, your mind will be able to accept and tolerate the pain... because there's nothing left to hold it back.



All you have to do is stay above them and take them by the horns.







Pulse

Chapter 1

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